Wildlife sanctuaries in Rajasthan

1812. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to declare new areas in Rajasthan as wildlife sanctuaries and protected .forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the same is being proposed by Government for other States as well; and

(d) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The power to notify wildlife sanctuaries and protected forests vests with the State Governments. Such proposals do not require approval of the Central Government.

Task force report on forest cover

1813. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Task force constituted by the Planning Commission to enhance forests cover has been processed by Government;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations; and

(c) how far its recommendations have been accepted by Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Planning Commission had constituted a Task Force in August, 1999 under the Chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission to provide policy directives, legal support, equitable marketing system to agro-forestry for sustainable agriculture. Later the scope of the task force was broadened in August, 2000 to cover Greening India for enhancement of forests cover of the country. The task force has suggested a massive greening programme to achieve the national goal of bringing 33% of total geographical area under tree cover in 10 years time frame. It focuses on